

CEO David Green may oppose birth control—and that is his personal decision—but individual Hobby Lobby employees have their own moral and religious views, and they shouldn't have to subscribe to his.

This case isn't about the rights of corporate CEOs. It is about the rights of workers and patients everywhere. It is about the individual freedom to choose and make your own health care decisions.

We need to stop bosses and out-of-touch politicians who want to come into our exam room and make those health care decisions. Let's keep these bosses out of the exam room and allow women to make the health care decisions that impact their own lives.

OBAMACARE ENROLLMENT

(Mr. WILLIAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS. When the Federal Government intervenes in the private sector, like ObamaCare, we end up with a celebrity in chief who chooses to spend valuable time marketing his product—ObamaCare—on comedy shows rather than focusing on our warring economy, jobs, and crises in Ukraine, Syria, Venezuela, Israel, and North Korea.

This week, the administration released its number for total enrollment in the President's health care law—4.2 million. This falls miserably short of the President's goal to enroll 7 million people by the end of this month. And what is worse is that health care experts estimate that the majority of the 4.2 who have enrolled already had insurance. The White House won't admit this, even though they know exactly how many previously insured are part of the 4.2 million.

Mr. Speaker, this law was designed to insure the uninsured, but it is failing in every single way. It is not helping those it was supposed to help, and it is hurting those with coverage they wanted to keep in the first place. The President needs to put the will of Americans ahead of his own agenda and fix this mess he has created.

ObamaCare has turned into ObamaScare.

May God bless America, and in God we trust.

WOMEN'S UNEMPLOYMENT

(Ms. BROWNLEY of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, this Women's History Month, we learned that women continue to struggle with long-term unemployment. In fact, long-term unemployment among women increased from 34.8 percent in January to 37.7 percent in February.

According to a recent Pew Research Center study, women are the sole or primary breadwinner in 4 in every 10

American households with children. When women who have jobs only receive 77 cents to every dollar a man makes, when 70 percent of Americans in poverty are women and children, in a country where women, out of the gate, start out behind, refusing to extend long-term unemployment compensation to those who have looked for a job but cannot find one is particularly hurtful.

For all these reasons, we must renew emergency unemployment compensation—because when women succeed, then Ventura County succeeds; and when Ventura County succeeds, America succeeds.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mr. POMPEO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POMPEO. Mr. Speaker, I am here this morning to acknowledge the Wichita State University men's basketball team and its unparalleled success this year. The number 2 ranked Shockers are the only team in the Nation that remains undefeated. At 34-0, the Wichita State Shockers are taking more wins into the NCAA basketball tournament than any team in the history of Division I basketball in the NCAA.

Our Shockers' head coach this year, Gregg Marshall, was just named the National Coach of the Year. The players on the court say proudly they have not played a single game that is tougher than any of their practices, and their play proves that team trumps individual every time.

It is said that some of these players were not five-star recruits, and that may be true, but I know them, and I can tell you they are five-star human beings. They come from places like Rockford, Illinois; Scott City, Kansas; Middletown, New York; and right in Wichita, Kansas. They come with no silver spoons. They are grinders; they are hard workers; they are scrappy; and they are fighters with big hearts.

They reflect our town and the best of America, and we love them. Godspeed to them.

Go Shocks.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

(Ms. FUDGE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, as our economy continues to experience high levels of unemployment and a flat labor participation rate, now is not the time to further decimate vital assistance to those who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own. I will not abandon 2 million Americans, including 200,000 veterans. We must give them a hand up.

Yesterday, I signed a discharge petition to force action on extending un-

employment insurance benefits, a move supported by more than three-fourths of the American people.

Additionally, nationally, there are three unemployed people for each job created. For the long-term unemployed, there is just a 12 percent chance of finding a new job in any given month.

Congress must extend unemployment benefits to help keep American families out of poverty as they seek jobs. Each week we fail to act, another 72,000 people lose their benefits. We must act now.

FREEDOM OF RELIGION MEANS FREEDOM TO PRACTICE YOUR FAITH

(Mr. LANKFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, when a family runs a business by the principles of their faith—which used to be protected in America—can a President step in and say: I disagree with your faith, so I will pass a regulation that says you can no longer practice your faith at work—you can at home, but not at work?

Hobby Lobby is a family-owned business that doesn't want Washington to be their boss. They believe that abortion takes the life of a child and that every child deserves a chance at life. What is wrong with that?

If a Federal employee disagrees with the faith practice of someone in a company, does that business have to change to the faith of the Federal employee, or can they keep their own faith?

It is now the rule that to open a company, work in a job, or get health care, you have to have the same religious convictions as the President of the United States. If you don't, you will be fined until you change your faith practice.

Just days ago, the President spoke at the National Prayer Breakfast about the cornerstone right of the free expression of religion. Does that include Americans who believe that children are a gift of God and they should be nurtured and cared for, not discarded as tissue?

Washington is not the boss of every American. Our Constitution matters; freedom of religion matters; and, quite frankly, children matter.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, on December 28, emergency unemployment benefits for Americans were cut off; and since then, 2 million Americans have lost their essential lifeline and have been missing their rent payments, missing their mortgage payments, trying to keep the house warm and put

food on the table. Congress has failed to act.

What is particularly concerning to me is some of the rhetoric that I hear would imply that those unemployed Americans are seeking benefits because they don't want to work. And, in fact, yesterday, I read a quote from the Budget Committee chairman—and I will try to get this correct—saying that, in America, there is a culture in our inner cities of men not even thinking about working or learning the value and the culture of work.

That is not the problem. The problem is a lack of opportunity. So I will take the chairman at his word that he was intending to say: so, therefore, we need to fully fund after-school programs, we need to fully fund pre-K programs, and we need to fully fund summer youth employment so that those young people do have a chance to experience the benefit and value of work, and that we provide a safety net to make sure that when they are not working, they don't lose their house, their car, and their family.

RECOGNIZING THE COLORADO FLOOD RESPONDERS

(Mr. GARDNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedicated men and women who have assisted the State of Colorado in our effort to recover from the devastating floods last September.

On September 11, Colorado experienced a major flood event which took the lives of beloved neighbors, destroyed over 2,000 homes and damaged 17,000 others. Our communities, friends, and neighbors had their lives changed forever and are still putting the pieces back together and rebuilding.

In the wake of the flood, local and State officials, private businesses and individuals, first responders, National Guard, FEMA personnel, and dedicated volunteers worked tirelessly to help Coloradans get life back to normal. While the recovery effort remains unfinished and won't be complete for some time, we are on a positive path forward. If it hadn't been for the committed and devoted people on the ground, Colorado would not be on that path today.

As with all natural disasters and tragedies of this magnitude, Coloradans rallied together and helped in the recovery effort. We still have more work to do. But I want to recognize on the House floor all those who joined together in these recovery efforts and helped Colorado in a desperate time of need.

As a fifth-generation Coloradan, I offer my deep appreciation on behalf of the State.

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HONORING OFFICER NICHOLAS CHOUNG LEE

(Mr. SCHIFF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Nicholas Choung Lee, a Los Angeles police officer who selflessly served his community.

Nicholas served for years in the LAPD, first in the Van Nuys division and later in the Hollywood division, assigned to a patrol car. He had worked as both a field training officer and vice officer in Wilshire before returning to patrol in the Hollywood division in 2008. In his 16 years of service he received more than 70 commendations.

Even as a police officer, family came first for Nicholas, who had a wife, Cathy, and two young daughters, Jalen and Kendall.

Tragically, and much too soon, Nicholas passed away on April 6 when a truck hit his patrol car in Beverly Hills.

We depend upon the bravery and dedication of police officers every moment of every day, and we often forget the dangers and challenges they face on our behalf. I ask all members to join me in expressing our condolences to the Lee family and the entire LAPD.

HONORING AMOS ROJAS, JR.

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, Amos Rojas, Jr., was sworn in yesterday as the U.S. Marshal for our southern district of Florida.

A consummate public servant, Marshal Rojas served 24 years of his career with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, including 8 years as a special agent in charge of the Miami region's operations center.

Marshal Rojas was most recently deputy director of the South Florida Money Laundering Strike Force within the Miami-Dade County State Attorney's Office.

The U.S. Marshal Service traces its roots back to the Judiciary Act of 1789 under President George Washington and has played many important roles throughout our Nation's history.

I am proud to see Marshal Rojas join this elite and storied law enforcement agency.

Congratulations, again, to south Florida's new top cop.

HOBBY LOBBY V. SEBELIUS

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court will soon hear oral arguments in the case commonly referred to as Hobby Lobby v. Sebelius. The

outcome of this case will determine whether or not a for-profit company has the right to limit a female employee's access to health care under the guise of religious freedom.

Already the Supreme Court has wrongly declared that corporations have a right to "freedom of speech," as determined in the case of Citizens United. In just a few short years, this ruling has led to a flood of undisclosed money into our elections and corrupted our political system. Corporations' latest attempts to secure the constitutionally-protected rights of citizens is equally as dangerous.

Only a living, breathing woman should have the right to decide how and when she wants to have a family. Regardless of her decision, that choice belongs to her and not to the corporation for which she works.

Millions of women depend upon birth control pills for reasons beyond preventing unintended pregnancies, including a 13-year-old girl in my district, who would rather be in her classroom learning but who spends lots of time in a doctor's office trying to control uncontrollable bleeding. Yet, through no fault of her own, she finds herself at her doctor's office often, and then just recently had to have a blood transfusion.

This young woman relies upon birth control medication to control her bleeding, a medication that her family can only afford because her mother's access to contraceptive care is not violated by her employer.

If the Supreme Court once again interprets our Federal law to grant citizen freedoms to a corporation, it will directly threaten the rights of this young girl and millions of women around the country. We cannot allow that to happen.

HONORING LIEUTENANT NATE KING

(Mr. PITTENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lieutenant Nate King of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department.

Just a few days ago, Lieutenant King was conducting routine police business when a frantic mother drove up and placed a seemingly lifeless baby into his arms. Six-month-old Lily was choking to death. Without losing his cool, Lieutenant King quickly began life-saving measures, and soon little Lily started screaming and crying. Thanks to Lieutenant King's efforts, little Lily is alive today.

Even better, the doctors who examined Lily that day at the hospital determined she was fine and had made a full recovery.

On behalf of Congress and the people of North Carolina's Ninth Congressional District, thank you to Lieutenant King for your exceptional service. You make us all proud.